

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAM-01 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 OES-03 HEW-02 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 TRSE-00

/089 W

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O R 151145Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6783

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 861

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC EI PFOR

SUBJ: US/EC CONSULTATIONS: MIDDLE EAST

1. IRISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR NOEL DORR BRIEFED US LATE MAY 14 ON  
RESULTS OF EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING OF PREVIOUS TWO DAYS.

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MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS WERE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECTS DIS-

CUSSED, ALTHOUGH NOT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME WAS AVAILABLE FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION. DORR ALSO BROUGHT US UP-TO-DATE ON MIDDLE EAST MATTERS WHICH WERE NOT SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS. OTHER SUBJECTS SEPTELS.

2. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS SPENT MUCH OF THEIR TIME ON THE REPLY WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD WILL GIVE TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON THE MIDDLE EASTERN SITUATION. REPLY WILL APPARENTLY NOT BE VERY SUBSTANTIVE OR DRAMATIC, AND THE MAIN CONCERN WAS TO GET THE NEW PROCEDURE OF POLITICAL PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS OFF TO A GOOD START.

3. THERE WAS ALSO A DISCUSSION OF POINTS WE HAD MADE TO THE IRISH EC PRESIDENCY ON APRIL 28 (STATE 97633 AND DUBLIN 755). DORR SAID THAT HIS BRIEFING TO US WAS SPECIFICALLY INTENDED BY THE EC TO CONSTITUTE AN INTERIM REPLY. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS WILL LOOK FORWARD TO INFORMATION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE AMERICAN REASSESSMENT, WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE A MORE DETAILED EC DISCUSSION. DORR SAID THE DIRECTORS TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF OUR EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FURTHER DISCUSSION AFTER THE US POLICY REASSESSMENT HAS BEEN COMPLETED. (SEE PARA 6 OF STATE 97633.)

4. PARTICIPANTS THEN DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF THE WHO PROPOSAL TO INSPECT HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL. AS THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS UNDERSTOOD THE SITUATION, THE ISRAELIS ARE UNHAPPY WITH THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH THEY CONSIDER ENTIRELY POLITICAL, BUT THEY HAVE DECIDED TO ADMIT AN INSPECTION TEAM SO LONG AS ITS MEMBERS ARE FROM COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. THE ARABS, IN TURN, ARE EXPECTED TO BE UNHAPPY WITH THE ISRAELI RESPONSE, SINCE IT EXCLUDES SOME OF THE OBSERVERS THAT THEY HAD WISHED TO SEND. ACCORDING TO DORR, ISRAEL HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN INCLINED TO REFUSE ANY INSPECTION TEAM BUT HAD CONCLUDED THAT THIS TACTIC WOULD MERELY MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE ARABS TO BUILD UP A CASE FOR EXPELLING ISRAEL FROM THE ORGANIZATION. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS DECIDED TO ENCOURAGE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINE TO CONSULT ON THIS MATTER AND TO KEEP TO A COMMON POSITION.

5. EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE: THIS MATTER WAS NOT DISCUSSED BY THE  
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POLITICAL DIRECTORS, BUT AT OUR REQUEST, DORR GAVE US AN EC SITREP. AS THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE ALREADY REPORTED, ALGERIA AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN "GROWLING" ABOUT THE EC SIGNING OF A TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL. POLITICAL DIRECTORS HOPE THAT THIS PROBLEM WILL BLOW OVER, BUT IF IT DOES NOT, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL HAVE TO DISCUSS IT DURING THEIR MEETING IN DUBLIN ON MAY 26. IN THE MEANTIME, EAMONN GALLAGHER, WHO IS THE IRISH DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY WORKING ON ARAB PROBLEMS, WILL BE LEAVING FOR

CAIRO ON MAY 15. SOMEONE FROM THE COMMISSION WILL PROBABLY BE TRAVELING WITH HIM. GALLAGHER IS CONSIDERED AN "ADVANCE MAN" FOR THE EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE. IN EFFECT, DORR SAID, GALLAGHER'S MISSION IS TO PREPARE FOR A MEETING AIMED AT PREPARING A MEETING WHOSE FUNCTION TO PREPARE FOR YET ANOTHER MEETING. (COMMENT: EMBOFFS IN CAIRO WHO MAY CHANCE TO MEET GALLAGHER WILL FIND HIM OPEN, COMPETENT, AND REALISTIC.)

6. DR. FITZGERALD'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST A FEW DAYS LATER (DUBLIN 795) IS FOR A MUCH MORE GENERAL PURPOSE. HE HAS NO SPECIFIC EC MANDATE AND PLANS TO SPEND PART OF HIS TIME LOOKING AT IRISH BILATERAL CONCERNS, ALTHOUGH HE WILL CERTAINLY BE PUTTING ON HIS EC HAT WHEN THE OCCASION CALLS FOR IT. LEADING QUESTIONS LIKE THE PEACE SETTLEMENT AND EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE ARE BOUND TO ARISE IN HIS DISCUSSIONS, BUT HE HAS NO SPECIFIC PLANS FOR PURSUING THEM, DESPITE SOME STORIES IN THE PRESS. DORR NOTED THAT FITZGERALD HAD LONG HAD A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND HAS BEEN AWARE OF THE WEAKNESS OF IRISH REPRESENTATION THERE.

7. COMMENT: THE TRIP WOULD APPEAR TO BE DR. FITZGERALD'S OWN PROJECT. KNOWING OF HIS FORMIDABLE ENERGY, HOWEVER, WE FEEL SURE THAT HE WILL NOT LEAVE ANYTHING UNDONE WHICH COULD POSSIBLE BY TACKLED IN THE TIME HE HAS AVAILABLE. IN ADDITION TO CAIRO, HE PLANS TO VISIT BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, AND AMMAN.  
REND AHL

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